



**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**[Docket No. ED-2022-SCC-0098]**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; GEPA Section 427  
Guidance for All Grant Applications**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

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**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, ED is proposing a revision of a currently approved information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2022-SCC-0098. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail,

commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the regulations.gov site is not available to the public for any reason, ED will temporarily accept comments at [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov). Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or e-mail and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the PRA Coordinator of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, LBJ, Room 6W208B, Washington, D.C. 20202-8240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Cleveland Knight, 202-987-0064.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on

the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* GEPA Section 427 Guidance for All Grant Applications

*OMB Control Number:* 1894-0005

*Type of Review:* A revision of a currently approved collection

*Respondents / Affected Public:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 18,550

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 55,650

*Abstract:* On October 20, 1994, the Improving America's Schools Act, Public Law 103-382(The Act), became law. The Act added a provision to the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA). Section 427 of GEPA requires an applicant for assistance under Department programs to develop and describe in the grant application the steps it proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in, its proposed project for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries. Applicants have responded to the GEPA 427 requirements for approximately the last 27 years, and the current form expires in June 2023. In response to the Agency's Equity Plan resulting from the President's Executive Order 13985, we now propose we now propose to update that form by expanding the number of questions from one to four.

These four questions are intended to help applicants for Department grant funds to be more intentional and specific as to identifying barriers to equitable access and how they will address those barriers consistent with the requirements of section 427 of GEPA. As with the existing form, applicants retain the flexibility to determine and define for themselves the barriers to “equitable access” and “equitable participation” based on the design of their proposed grant projects and the participants and community the project proposes to serve.

**Dated:** August 1, 2022.

**Juliana Pearson,**

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*Governance and Strategy Division,*

*Office of Chief Data Officer,*

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